What is claimed is:

- 1. A child safety warning device comprising:
- a portable housing;
- a recording device located within the housing;
- a connector coupled to the housing and adapted to fit within a vehicle socket; and

a switching device coupled to the recording device and the connector;

wherein the switching device provides a signal to the recording device indicative of an ignition state of a vehicle; and

wherein the recording device plays back a prerecorded message in response to the signal provided by the switching device.

- 2. A child safety warning device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a speaker coupled to the recording device.
- 3. A child safety warning device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the switching device comprises a relay.
- 4. A child safety warning device as claimed in claim 3, wherein the relay is a normally closed relay.